Amendments to the Claims

Claims:

1 - 14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising machine-executable instructions to implement a plugin for a browser, wherein said instructions instruct the browser to perform the following method steps during operation:

> ~~to operate by~~ detecting when the browser ~~is about~~ starts to display a DNS look-up failure; and

> upon said detection and prior to the display of the DNS look-up failure ~~of when the browser is about to display a DNS look-up failure~~, attempting a DNS look-up on an alternative DNS server.

16. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15 wherein said instructions instruct the browser to perform a further DNS name look-up on an alternative DNS server before the DNS look-up failure is displayed.

17. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15 wherein said instructions instruct the browser to execute a configuration script that attempts a DNS look-up in an alternative server.

18. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15, wherein said plugin is suitable for installation in a web browser by being downloaded from a remote web site.

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19. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 18, further comprising an installer that installs the plugin with a minimum of user intervention.

20. (Currently Amended) A medium according to claim 1<u>5</u>, wherein said plugin is operative to contact a remote server to obtain data relating to the alternative name server.

21. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 20 wherein said plugin obtains such data each time the operating system is started or each time the plugin is initiated.

22. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15 wherein said plugin instructs the browser to operate by configuring its proxy server settings.

23. (Previously Presented) A medium according to claim 15 wherein said plugin instructs the browser to communicate with the alternative DNS server through a proxy server.

24. (Currently Amended) A general purpose computer comprising a web browser that has a plugin that instructs the browser to perform the following method steps during operation:

~~to operate by~~ detecting when the browser ~~is about~~ <u>starts</u> to display a DNS look-up failure; and

upon <u>said</u> detection, ~~of when the browser is about to display a DNS look-up failure to~~ attempt<u>ing</u> a DNS look-up on an alternative DNS server.

25. (Previously Presented) A general purpose computer comprising a web browser according to claim 24 that is configured by the plugin to refer DNS look-ups to an alternative server through configuration of its proxy settings.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of resolving a network name, the method comprising:

using a plug-in for browser software installed on a general purpose computer to

detect when the browser is about starts to display a DNS look-up failure and,

upon said detection of when the browser is about to display DNS look-up failure, to execute a configuration script that attempts a DNS lookup on an alternative DNS server.